GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2362
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2008
SOIL HEALTH CARDS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to issue sail Health Cards to farmers which will inter-alia contain information regarding the fertility of their fields as well as the crops and the fertilizers best suited for the fields;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said cards are likey to be issued?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): Under the subcomponent of Integrated Nutrient Management Scheme subsumed under revised Macro Management of Agriculture Scheme, distribution of Soil Health Card is one of the approved activities for which assistance not exceeding Rs.10/- per card is provided to State Government. Besides this, under the National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility, financial assistance is being provided to set up 500 static and 250 mobile Soil Testing Laboratories.

(b): Soil Health Card contains the information of soil status based on laboratory analysis of major nutrients, secondary nutrients, micro nutrients etc. Recommendations are also made for various crops based on soil status. During 2006-07, a total of 163 lakh (approx.) of Soil Health Cards have been distributed to the farmers by State Governments.

(c): Normally, State Governments issue the Soil Health Card within time periods ranging from 7 to 30 days after analysis of soil sample.